GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5391
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2011
PROMOTION OF SEASONAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has prepared any scheme/project to promote the production of seasonal agricultural produce like vegetables and fruits in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any survey in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): The Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) is implementing two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz (i) Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) and (ii) National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in remaining States and Union Territories for the holistic development of horticulture sector in the country by adopting an area based regionally differentiated cluster approach. Under these schemes, all horticulture crops such as fruits, spices, flowers and aromatic plants, plantation crops of cashew and cocoa are included for area expansion. Whereas, under HMNEH, vegetables are covered for area expansion, under NHM, vegetables are covered through seed production, protected cultivation and vegetable seed infrastructure.

(c) & (d): National Horticulture Board in the DAC publishes every year "Indian Horticulture Data Base" which contains information on area, production and productivity of important horticulture crops. During 2009-10, the total area and production of horticulture crops is 20.87 million ha and 223.09 million tonnes respectively, out of which, area and production of fruits and vegetables is 6.32 million ha and 7.98 million ha and 71.51 million tonnes and 133.73 million tonnes respectively.